

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 24-36 are pending in the present application. In the Final Office Action mailed November 14, 2005 the Examiner rejected claims 24-28 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Oranje (USP 3,822,533). The Examiner next rejected claims 30-35 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Oranje (USP 3,822,533). Claims 29 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Oranje taken together with Derocher (USP 2,515,398). Applicant appreciates the indication of allowability of claims 1-7.

Applicant has amended claim 24 to further define that which is called for therein. Applicant has incorporated the subject matter of 27 into claim 24. Claim 27 is hereby cancelled. In discussing the patentability of claims 1-7 over the art of record, the Examiner suggested that the art of record does not teach or suggest an opening formed in the plurality of radially directed baffles, wherein the opening is positioned proximate a liquid outlet. As amended, Applicant believes claim 24, and the claims that depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

Applicant has amended claim 30 to further define that which is called for therein. Applicant has incorporated the subject matter of claim 34 into claim 30. Claim 34 is hereby cancelled. Applicant has amended claim 33 to comport with the amendments to claim 30 from which it depends. As amended, claim 30 calls for, in part, a plurality of baffles formed in the second chamber and constructed to radially redirect a flow through the opening between the first chamber and the second chamber. Claim 30 further calls for an opening formed within the plurality of baffles positioned proximate an oil outlet thereby allowing uninterrupted fluid flow thereto. The art of record does not teach or suggest “an opening formed within the plurality of radially directed baffles proximate the liquid outlet to allow uninterrupted liquid flow therethrough.” Accordingly, Applicant believes claims 30, and the claims that depend therefrom, are patentably distinct thereover.

Therefore, in light of at least the foregoing, Applicant respectfully believes that the present application is in condition for allowance. As a result, Applicant respectfully requests timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-7, 24-26, 28-33, 35, and 36.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's consideration of these Amendments and Remarks and cordially invites the Examiner to call the undersigned, should the Examiner consider any matters unresolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: January 17, 2006
Attorney Docket No.: ITW7510.091

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